

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10197

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XA, OAU, ECA, ECIN

SUBJECT: OAU MINISTERIAL ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

REF: ADDIS ABABA 10094

SUMMARY: OAU AND ECA EXPERTS MEETING FROM AUGUST 26-30 AND OAU MINISTERIAL FROM SEPTEMBER 1-5 DEVELOPED AFRICAN DRAFT DECLARATION AND ACTION PROGRAM FOR USE AT MEXICO CITY NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. DOCUMENT IS LENGTHY STATEMENT OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND CONTAINS LITTLE NEW MATERIAL. COPIES OF THIS AND OTHER PERTINENT DOCUMENTS FROM BOTH MEETINGS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY EMBASSY AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO AF/EPS. END SUMMARY

1. TWELVE POINT AFRICAN DRAFT DECLARATION IS GENERAL ENDORSEMENT OF PREVIOUS GROUP OF 77 POSITIONS. DECLARATION INCLUDES FOLLOWING POINTS:

--SUCCESS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN EXERCISING FULL SOVEREIGNTY OVER THEIR NATURAL AND OTHER RESOURCES HAS CHANGED WORLD ECONOMIC POLITICAL EQUATION AND RESULTED IN EMERGENCE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS MORE POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE ENTITY.

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--NEWFOUND STRENGTH OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OPENS UP

PROMISING AVENUES FOR ENLARGING AND REINFORCING COOPERATION AMONG THEMSELVES. OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IS JOINT ACTION BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO CONTROL THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES. --PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS CAN STRENGTHEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' BARGAINING POWER FOR JUST AND EQUITABLE TREATMENT FOR THEIR EXPORTS.

--DESPITE RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA, THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIGNS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

--WHILE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE RECOVERING FROM RECESSION, DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE STILL AFFECTED BY DETERIORATION IN TERMS OF TRADE, REFUSAL BY INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS TO INDEX RAW MATERIAL PRICES TO PRICES OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS, REDUCTION IN THEIR SHARE OF WORLD TRADE, DECLINE IN REAL TERMS IN VOLUME OF RESOURCE TRANSFERS TO FINANCE DEVELOPMENT, INCREASED EXTERNAL DEBT, AND FAILURE OF EFFORTS TO CHANGE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM.

--FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT POLICY MEASURES OF INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY OF UN SECOND DEVELOPMENT DECADE AND RESOLUTIONS OF 6TH AND 7TH UNGA HAVE PRODUCED MOST DISCOURAGING RESULTS. CRISIS OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT AFFECTS INCREASING NUMBER OF PEOPLE PARTICULARLY LEAST DEVELOPED, LANDLOCKED, ISLAND, AND OTHER GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED COUNTRIES.

--THESE STATES HAVE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES MAINTAINING MINIMUM STANDARD OF LIVING AND DEBT BURDEN HAS BECOME UNBEARABLE.

--PARTS OF DEVELOPING WORLD ARE STILL SUBJECT TO COLONIALISM, FOREIGN AGGRESSION AND OCCUPATION, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND APARTHEID; THIS CONSTITUTES OBSTACLE TO BOTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE. IT IS DUTY OF ALL STATES TO ELIMINATE CONDEMNED PRACTICES AND TO EXTEND EFFECTIVE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLES, COUNTRIES, AND TERRITORIES SUBJECT TO ANY FORM OF DOMINATION. INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS URGED TO FACILITATE EFFECTIVE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT TO RESTITUTION AND FULL COMPENSATION FOR EXPLOITATION, DEPLETION AND DAMAGES TO NATURAL AND OTHER RESOURCES OF THESE PEOPLES, COUNTRIES, AND TERRITORIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNGA RESOLUTION 3201 (S-VI), ALGIERS AND COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AND DAKAR DECLARATION ON RAW MATERIALS AND DEVELOPMENT.

--IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFRICAN POSITION IN UNDP, SPECIAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO NEWLY INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND

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NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RECOGNIZED BY OAU. ZAMBIA AND MOZAMBIQUE SHOULD BE ADEQUATELY COMPENSATED FOR ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF CLOSING THEIR BORDERS TO ILLEGAL MINORITY REGIM IN ZIMBABWE. ASSISTANCE SHOULD ALSO BE EXTENDED TO BOTSWANA, LESOTHO, AND SWAZILAND.

--GROUP OF 77 SHOULD CONSIDER PRINCIPLES OF COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING POWER OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS BASIS FOR CHALLENGING PRESENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

2. PROGRAM OF ACTION WRITTEN BY THE EXPERTS' COMMITTEE AND ADOPTED BY THE MINISTERS CONTAINS FEW, IF ANY, NEW PROPOSALS. PROGRAM DRAWS HEAVILY FROM SIMILAR DOCUMENTS PREPARED AT AFRICAN OR LDC CONFERENCES IN DAKAR (CONFERENCE ON COMMODITIES), LIMA (NAC), ALGIERS (AFRICAN UNCTAD PREPARATORY), MANILA (NAC UNCTAD PREPARATORY), NAIROBI (UNCTAD), MAURITIUS (OAU CHIEFS OF STATE), AND COLOMBO (NAC). THE DOMINANT THEME THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM OF ACTION IS ONE OF COOPERATION AMONG AFRICAN NATIONS, WITH WORDS SUCH AS "COOPERATION", "JOINT", "REGIONAL," SUBREGIONAL,"MULTI-NATIONAL," "INTEGRATED," "COORDINATION," AND "HARMONIZATION" SCATTERED THROUGHOUT DRAFT. NINETEEN DIFFERENT SUBJECTS, RANGING FROM AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRIALIZATION AND MONETARY SYSTEM TO SPORTS, HABITAT, AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT ARE TREATED IN THE 15 PROGRAMS FOR ACTION. SPECIFIC PROPOSALS IN THE PROGRAM ARE FAMILIAR ONES; PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS, BUFFER STOCKS, PREFERENCES, AND INCREASED AID FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

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